

# GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

August 19, 2005

8:30 a.m.

## MINUTES

### GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair  
Michael Prince  
Heather Hockanson  
Dwight Sinila  
Sgt. Lance Cook  
Ron Wilson  
John Friend  
Pamela Hall  
Chief David Stamm  
Steven Puuri

### REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor  
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)  
for Linda Scarpetta, Department of Community Health (MDCH)  
Department of Education (MDE)  
for F/Lt. Thad Peterson – Department of State Police (MSP)  
Department of State (DOS)  
Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
for Cherie Mollison, Office of Services to the Aging  
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police  
Local Representative – Road Commission Association

### STAFF

Sue Joseph

### GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Sheriff Al Byam

Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association

### ACTION TEAMS

Homer Smith/MADD-Michigan	Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving
Gary Bubar/AAA	Drivers Ages 24 and Younger Action Team
Kim Lariviere/MDOT	Elderly Mobility Action Team
Steve Schreier/OHSP	Intersection Safety Action Team
Tom Bruff/SEMCOG	Lane Departure Action Team
Todd Kauffman/MDOT	Non-Motorized Transportation – Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Action Team
Paul Steinman/MDOT	Work Zone Safety Action Team

### GUESTS

Bob Felt  
Jason Hamblen  
Calvin Johnson  
Betty Mercer  
Richard Miller  
Dave Morena  
James Nye  
Cathy Pavick  
James Santilli  
Deborah Savage  
Pietro Semifero  
Alicia Sledge  
Sydney Smith  
Dave Wallace

### REPRESENTING

MDOT/Office of Communications  
Office of Highway Safety Planning  
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments  
Mercer Consulting Group  
AAA of Michigan  
Federal Highway Administration  
Marketing Resource Group/ABATE  
Michigan Licensed Beverage Association  
Michigan Highway Traffic Safety Alliance  
Office of Highway Safety Planning  
Office of Highway Safety Planning  
Office of Highway Safety Planning  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center  
Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introduction completed. Mr. Steven Puuri was announced as the new local representative for the County Road Association of Michigan. Mr. Puuri is the Managing Director of Washtenaw County Road Commission.

### Public Comment/Announcement Items

No public comment.

### Approval of GTSAC June 24, 2005 Minutes

The June 24, 2005, minutes were approved. **Motion made by John Friend to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Dwight Sinila. Motion passed.**

## **Reports/Updates**

### **➤ Chair Report – Robert Morris**

Action Team reports will take most of the meeting time. These action plans reflect the activity that has taken place over the last year and is the driving force to move the commission forward. The commissioner packet contains the signed motorcycle letter to the Governor based on the June meeting discussion.

### **➤ Discussion of Transportation Reauthorization Update**

John Friend gave a brief overview of the new transportation safety bill recently passed by congress. Detailed analysis of the document is being conducted. The overall quick picture of the bill reflects a greater return to the state on tax dollars, more national level money for both transportation and transit issues. From the MDOT perspective this bill was in line with expectations and will maintain the early projections so projects can stay on track. Mike Prince agreed with the statements of MDOT and gave a quick glimpse of the bill from the behavioral side, which OHSP addresses. As expected belts, alcohol, and data improvements will continue to see funding. Research funding has also been included in the bill. It is still very early in the approval of this bill so in-depth analysis is on-going.

### **➤ Legislative Report**

Report distributed through the Listserv as well as copies available at this meeting regarding traffic safety legislative issues.

## **GTSAC Commissioner Update**

### **➤ Community Health – Heather Hockanson**

Heather reported on a project in cooperation with the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute for child booster seat use and a parent phone survey. The final report will be distributed at a future meeting. The Michigan SAFE KIDS Coalition will conduct a meeting at the McMullen facility in Higgins Lake to help motivate current coordinators and move this issue forward.

### **➤ Education – Dwight Sinila**

With the school year quickly approaching, MDE is working with agencies to train the bus drivers for the safe transportation of students. Two initiatives the MDE is exploring are a state-wide database for bus driver training/records and a web page of training information. The idea behind this initiative is to put all school bus data and training information into one area. This concept will allow everyone to view the information.

### **➤ State – Ron Wilson**

Secretary Land has developed a Driver Education Advisory Committee. This committee has been given a very aggressive agenda to pull all the areas of information together. The season is coming to a close for motorcycle training. Over 11,000 people will have attended the training program this year. Another Super Office will be opened in Flint next week.

### **➤ State Police – Sgt. Lance Cook**

Sergeant Cook reported Operation CARE will be in full-swing over the Labor Day holiday. Traffic Update 6 and 7 were distributed. A class is being developing for all interested parties on the motor vehicle code.

### **➤ Transportation – John Friend**

Construction season is in full swing. A thank-you was given to OHSP and all law enforcement agencies in conjunction with the US-2, Operation SABRE project. The initial study shows this program to be a great success and a cooperative effort with law enforcement and safety advocates. The speed limit in construction zones policy is being reviewed. A presentation is being developed for the MDOT Director on the additional money from the new transportation bill. Once the presentation is approved it can be shared with the GTSAC.

### **➤ OSA – Pamela Hall**

Pamela Hall reported that the Office of Services to the Aging has received a report that outlines five recommendation points to address the issue of the older driver.

### **➤ OHSP – Mike Prince**

YDDYL campaign kicked-off this week with several media events around the state. The campaign advertisements were shown. A brief analysis was distributed regarding the Memorial Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday crash statistics. OHSP staff attended numerous events this spring/summer season to educate the public on traffic safety initiatives. The Traffic Safety Summit is scheduled for February 28 – March 1, 2006. OHSP postcards were distributed to meeting participants that have been a huge success at the Travel Welcome Centers. With the full commission now in place, a request for a digital photograph from each commission member was requested. The photographs can be e-mailed to Sue Joseph. The MSP photographer will be in attendance at the October meeting for those commissioners who do not have a digital photograph. Michigan has a 93% belt use and has set the stage for other states to follow.

### **➤ Local Representation – Chief David Stamm – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police**

MACP is encouraging locals to apply for grants to help with their local issues from organizations like OHSP and MDCH.

## **Action Area Team Reports**

Those teams presenting today should give about a ten-minute overview of their plan. When all plans are finalized, OHSP will compile the plans into a final document with the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan ensuring consistency throughout the documents. A suggestion was made to incorporate the final document into a Traffic Safety Summit session for 2006.

### **➤ Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving – Homer Smith/MADD-Michigan**

Special thank-you was given to OHSP and PAAM for the assistance of the MADD presentation of a Prosecuting Attorney Award at the PAAM Annual meeting. Homer Smith distributed a draft of the Impaired Driving Enforcement and Safety Plan. The Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation prepared a state specific report and that document will give this group direction. Northern Michigan University developed a Quiz Bowl type game to help get the message out regarding impaired driving.

### **➤ Commercial Vehicle Safety – Michael Prince/OHSP, Vice Chair of Michigan Truck Safety Commission**

Mike gave a brief overview of the MTSC Strategic Plan. The MTSC meeting to discuss and finalize the plan is scheduled for September 8, 2005. When the plan is approved by the MTSC, it will be available for distribution to the GTSAC. The Strategic Plan document for the MTSC will also serve as the Commercial Vehicle Safety Action Plan for the GTSAC.

### **➤ Drivers Ages 24 and Younger – Gary Bubar/AAA Michigan**

An August meeting was held for the Action Team. The action team is working with the Department of State, Driver Education Advisory Committee so the two teams do not duplicate efforts. This team will also discuss areas outside the driver education issue since this group addresses issues for young adults through age 24. The use of technology is being investigated to educate the 18 to 25 age bracket. Current discussion is centering on those opting to skip the driver education classes and simply apply for their driver's license at age 18.

### **➤ Elderly Mobility Safety – Kim Lariviere/MDOT**

August meeting held to move forward with the Lead State Initiative and Action Plan for this group. Resource Center for Elderly was presented at the August meeting so will explore this center further at the September meeting. OSA developed a new safety plan that could change the direction of research being completed by MDOT.

### **➤ Intersection Safety Action Team – Steve Schreier/OHSP**

Steve distributed the Intersection Safety Action Team – Accomplishments document. Steve highlighted some key points from the plan. The trends of the crash data show goals are being reached in relation to this safety area. Intersection Safety issue has developed a training course, which many have attended, to learn the non-technical side of intersections. This training course is low-cost and will now turn the focus to present at larger conferences.

### **➤ Lane Departure – Tom Bruff/SEMCOG**

Tom Bruff distributed the Lane Departure draft plan and gave a brief overview. A September meeting will be held for the action team to discuss and finalize the plan. It is the intention of this team to send the Lane Departure Action Plan to the chairs of all other action teams to ensure no duplication of activities through other plan areas.

### **➤ Non-Motorized Transportation**

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Action Team – Todd Kauffman/MDOT Co-Chair

Todd Kauffman distributed the Michigan Pedestrian and Bicycle Action Plan. The final action plan will incorporate more data and charts. A September meeting will be held for the action team to further discuss and polish the draft document. With the new transportation bill recently passed the Safe Routes to School program was given money for this initiative which will be a cooperative effort through MDE, MDCH and MDOT.

### **➤ Occupant Protection**

Michigan Child Passenger Safety Coalition – Heather Hockanson/MDCH

Heather Hockason stated the action plan was started with the Child Passenger Safety Seat Assessment held in June with MDCH and OHSP. A meeting will be held on August 24, 2005 to discuss this report and form a draft Occupant Protection Action Plan.

### **➤ Work Zone Safety – Paul Steinman/MDOT – Lansing Traffic Safety Committee**

In June, Paul Steinman was asked to chair this team and many participants have been requested to help form the action team. The Action Team met in July to discuss and brainstorm the issue as well as give assignments to team members. Data will be the major focus of the work group to determine the cause of crashes and how to address solutions. Steve Puuri was requested to assist in obtaining a County Road Association of Michigan member to participate on the action team.

Through this combined effort, the GTSAC can document how they are moving issues forward. A final action plan document will be presented by the end of the year. The report will be an evolving project. Chair requests all final drafts from all action teams be presented at the October meeting. The October meeting will then turn to the implementation phase.

## **GTSAC Administrative Items**

Adjourn. Next Meeting is October 28, 2005 at Collins Road in the Presentation Room.